4 May 04

Project Metropolis

Purpose: Project Metropolis (PROMET) has a four-fold purpose: (1) Develop TTPs to enable Marines to survive, fight and win in MOUT. (2) Develop a comprehensive urban warfighting Program of Instruction. (3) Recommend improvements to existing and future training facilities. (4) Evaluate selected enabling technologies that enhance small unit combat capability.

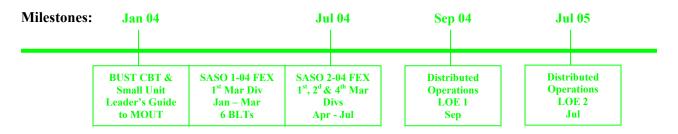
Background: The Lab began examining the urban environment in 1997 as part of the Urban Warrior series of experiments. Unable to accomplish all the objectives and finding that the Marine Corps faced profound challenges regarding training, techniques, tactics and procedures as



well as technological and equipment shortfalls PROMET was formed in June '99. PROMET evolved into the repository for urban expertise in the Marine Corps. It has resulted in a wholesale revision of urban doctrine that is still underway and continues to uncover shortfalls and responded to those identified by the advocates and the operating forces. It has been designated as the lead agent for the Marine Corps regarding participation with the Joint Urban Operations Cell at JFCOM. PROMET has become the umbrella organization under which a series of projects have formed.

Description: PROMET experimentation systematically identifies weaknesses or problem areas across the spectrum of urban operations and designs experiments in order to find solutions. PROMET partners with operating force units to conduct experiments at the platoon through battalion (reinforced) level. Experimentation is accomplished across all spectrums of conflict with symmetric and asymmetric threats in both high and low intensity combat environments. PROMET takes a holistic approach to finding ways to prepare for the "three block war". PROMET has recently been heavily involved in the preparation of Battalions of the 1st, 2^d, and 4th Marine Divisions for Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) 2. Creating an Iraqi village type environment at the former married quarter area of March Air Reserve Base, PROMET trained six Battalions of the 1st Marine Division during Jan to Mar '04. 1st, 2^d, and 4th Marine Divisions have requested the assistance of PROMET to train a further 11 units in preparation for OIF 2 during Apr to Jul '04. This training places heavy emphasis upon creating an environment that closely replicates the people and threat forces that the Marines will face in Iraq. Results so far from Marine Battalions deployed to Iraq in Mar '04 have been favorable.

Deliverable Product(s): Urban Warfighting Program of Instruction (POI) and TTPs, Basic Urban Skills Training (BUST) POI. Urban Combined Arms Exercise Assessment of Urban Training Facilities and technology assessments. Computer Based Training for the BUST POI.



Action Officer: 703-432-1062